REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons which follow. Claims 5-16 have been withdrawn from consideration as non-elected. Claims 1-4 have been amended. Claims 1-4 are pending for reconsideration.

Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment

The Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment mailed on February 11, 2003 indicated that page 10 was missing from the reply filed on December 2, 2003. Applicant notes that the reply in question was filed on December 2, 2002. Applicant submits that the present Amendment and Reply includes page 10 (on page 11 of the present Amendment and Reply) from the reply filed on December 2, 2002, and is fully responsive.

Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests approval of the drawings filed on September 7, 2000 in the present application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

In general, applicant has amended the claims to address the concerns of the Examiner. Applicant has also amended the claims to improve their form and grammar. With respect to the language "said operation including selecting said special menu key on said menu for designating a sales item", however, applicant submits that this language is clear and is open to operations in addition to selecting the special menu key. Applicant notes that the phrase contains the term "including", which is open-ended.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph has been overcome, and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

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Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,262,938 to Rapoport et al. (hereafter "Rapoport"). Claims 2-4 stand as alternatively rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,049,780 to Fuyama (hereafter "Fuyama"). Insofar as these rejections pertain to the claims as amended, applicant respectfully traverses.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a POS registering system. The system includes a menu having a plurality of menu keys and at least one selection key. When a first operation including selecting a menu key is performed for designating a sales item on the menu, entries of sales item data of all sales items assigned to the selected menu key are displayed on a display in such a manner that the data of the designated sales item is <u>distinguished</u> from entries of sales item data of correction alternative sales items. The correction alternative sales items are sales items which are assigned to the selected menu key <u>other than</u> the designated sales item. When a second operation is performed for selecting one of the entries of sales item data of the correction alternative sales items displayed on said display device, the selected entry is treated as an entry to be processed. Thus, in the system of claim 1, when an operation including selecting a menu key is performed for designating a sales item, <u>both</u> sales item data for the designated sales item as well as for the correction alternatives sales items are displayed, and the entries of the correction alternatives sales items are <u>distinguished</u> from that of the designated sales item, and then a second operation selects one of the <u>corrective alternative sales item data displayed</u> such that the selected entry is treated as an entry to be processed. Applicant submits that the references cited in the rejection of the claims do not suggest these features of independent claim 1.

Rapoport discloses a food services routing system. Figure 8 illustrates an order entry screen which includes a Category window 80 and a select item window 82 (col. 6, lines 24-33). The user selects a particular category from the Category window 80

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which causes the items in that category to be displayed in the select item window 82 (col. 6, lines 30-33). Selection of one of the items in the select item window 82 causes the selected item to be transferred to window 84 that represents the bill for the order.

The Office Action equates Rapoport's Category window choices with the menu keys of the present claims, and Rapoport's select item window choices with the selection keys of the present claims. When a user selects a category in the Rapoport system, however, the items listed in the select item window are not distinguished from each other. More specifically, Rapoport does not distinguish between a designated item in the select items window from those items in the window that are not designated. Thus, Rapoport does not suggest, in contrast to claim 1, that the data of the designated sales item is <u>distinguished</u> from entries of sales item data of correction alternative sales items.

Furthermore, Rapoport does not disclose a second operation where an item which is listed in the select item window, but has not been designated, is treated as an entry to be processed. Rapoport does disclose that an item in the select item list can be selected. However, even if this selection can be considered to be designating one of the selected items, only that selected (designated) item is then transferred to the bill window 84. Rapoport does not disclose that one of the non-selected items is transferred by a second operation. Thus, Rapoport does not disclose a second operation that selects one of the corrective alternative sales item data displayed such that the selected entry is treated as an entry to be processed.

Independent claims 2 and 3 are also directed to a POS registering system and have some features that are similar to claim 1. Claims 2 and 3 include a display-controlling means for displaying the designated sales item data and the entries of correction alternative sales item data on a display device <u>in a different format</u> from each other. Claims 2 and 3 also include a sales item registering means, when one of the entries of <u>correction alternative</u> sales item data is selected, for registering the selected entry of correction alternative sales item data as an entry to be registered.

As discussed above, Rapoport does not distinguish between a designated item in the select items window from those items in the window that are not designated, and does not disclose that one of the non-selected items in the select items window 82 is transferred by a second operation to the bill window 84. Thus, Rapoport does not display the entry of a designated sales item data <u>in a different format</u> from the entries of correction alternative sales item data, and also does not disclose a sales item registering means, for registering the selected entry of <u>correction alternative</u> sales item data as an entry to be registered.

For at least the reasons given above, applicants submit that Rapoport does not anticipate any of independent claims 1-3, or claim 4, which depends from claim 3.

Fuyama does not cure the deficiencies of Rapoport. Fuyama was cited for allegedly teaching price look up codes ("PLU codes"). Fuyama, however, like Rapoport, does not disclose with respect to claim 1, that entries of correction alternatives sales items are <u>distinguished</u> from that of the designated sales item in a display, or a second operation that selects one of the <u>corrective alternative</u> sales item data displayed such that the selected entry is treated as an entry to be processed. With respect to claims 2-4, like Rapoport, Fuyama does not disclose displaying the entry of designated sales item data <u>in a different format</u> from the entries of correction alternative sales item data, and also does not disclose a sales item registering means for registering the selected entry of <u>correction alternative</u> sales item data as an entry to be registered. Thus, even if Rapoport and Fuyama could be properly combined, the combination would not suggest the claimed invention of any of claims 1-4.

For the reasons given above, applicants submit that claims 1-4 are patentable over Rapoport and Fuyama, either alone or in combination. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 be withdrawn.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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change any deficiency or credit any over-
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MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE

Below are the marked up amended claim(s):

1. A POS registering system, comprising:

a menu having a plurality of menu keys and at least one selection key, at least one sales item being assigned to each of the menu keys, each of the selection [key] keys being used to select one of the sales items assigned to each of the menu keys;

a table containing entries of sales item data of the sales items assigned to each of the menu keys, said sales item data including a name and price of each sales item; and

a display device;

wherein when a first operation including a selecting a menu key is performed for designating a sales item on said menu, entries of sales item data of all sales items assigned to the selected menu key are retrieved from said table and all the retrieved entries of sales item data are displayed on said display device in such a manner that the entry of sales item data of the designated sales item is distinguished from entries of sales item data of correction alternative sales items, said correction alternative sales items being sales items which are assigned to the selected menu key other than the designated sales item; and

wherein when a second operation is performed (for selecting one of the entries of sales item data of the correction alternative sales items displayed on said display device,) the selected entry is treated as an entry to be processed.

2. A POS registering system, comprising:

a menu having a plurality of menu keys and at least one selection key, at least one sales item being assigned to each of the menu keys, each of the selection [key] keys being used to select one of the sales items assigned to each of the menu keys;

a table containing entries of sales item data of the sales items assigned to each of the menu keys, said sales item data including a name and price of each sales item;

a display device;

designated sales item-searching means for searching said table for an entry of designated sales item data which corresponds to a sales item designated by an operation on said menu, said operation including selecting a menu key to which a sales item to be designated is assigned;

correction alternative-searching means for searching the table for entries of correction alternative sales item data of sales items which are assigned to the menu key to which the designated sales item is assigned and which have not been designated by the operation;

display-controlling means for displaying the entry of the designated sales item data and the entries of correction alternative sales item data on said display device in such a manner that the entry of the designated sales item data is displayed in a different format from the entries of correction alternative sales item data; and

sales item-registering means, when [on] one of the entries of correction alternative sales item data is selected, for registering the selected entry of correction alternative sales item data as an entry to be registered.

3. A POS registering system, comprising:

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a menu having a plurality of menu keys and at least one selection key, at least one sales item being assigned to each of the menu keys, each of the selection [key] keys being used to select one of the sales items assigned to each of the menu keys;

a PLU table containing entries of sales item data of the sales items assigned to each of the menu keys, said sales item data including a name and price of each sales item, said entry of sales item data being correlated to a code of said sales item;

a key table containing the codes of sales items and operations on said menu in such a manner that a code of a sales item is designated by each operation on said menu;

a display device;

designated sales item-searching means for searching said key table for a sales item code corresponding to an operation on said menu and further searching said PLU table for an entry of designated sales item data corresponding to the searched sales item code;

correction alternative-searching means for searching said key table for sales item codes corresponding to sales items which are assigned to the menu key operated and which have not been designated and further searching said PLU table for entries of correction alternative sales item data corresponding to the searched sales item codes;

display-controlling means for displaying the entry of the designated sales item data and the entries of correction alternative sales item data on said display device in such a manner that the entry of the designated sales item data is displayed in a different format from the entries of correction alternative sales item data; and

sales item-registering means, when [on] one of the entries of correction alternative sales item data is selected, for registering the selected entry of correction alternative sales item data as an entry to be registered.

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4. The POS registering system as set forth in claim 3,

wherein said menu has a special menu key to which a plurality of sales items are assigned, the same sales item code being assigned to each of the sales items assigned to said special menu key;

wherein said PLU table correlatively contains sales item codes, entries of sales item data of sales items, and entries of selection key information, one sales item code being assigned to a plurality of sales items, entries of selection key information representing selection keys for selecting sales items to which the same sales item code is assigned;

wherein said key table contains sales item codes, each of which is assigned in common to the plurality of sales items assigned to the special menu key;

wherein said designated sales item-searching means searches said key table for a sales item code corresponding to an operation, said operation including selecting said special menu key on said menu for designating a sales item, and further searches said PLU table for pairs of an entry of sales item data and an entry of the selection key information corresponding to the searched sales item code; and

wherein among entries of sales item data corresponding to the searched sales item code, an entry selected by selecting one of the selection keys becomes an entry of the designated sales item data, and entries not selected by selecting one of the selection keys become entries of correction alternative sales item data.